Prices of Bulk Drugs

613. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of bulk drugs and finished medicines based on these drugs which are in the basket of wholesale price index;

(b) what are the names of bulk drugs which were under price control under DPCO, 1979 and how many of these are under price control under DPCO, 1987;

(c) what was the price of each of these drugs under DPCO, 1979 and what is the present price of each; and

(d) what is the percentage change in each?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (d) The required details, to the extent available, will be collected and laid on the Table of the House.

Shortage of Drugs in the Capital

614. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is an acute shortage of vital drugs in the capital;

(b) if so, what are the reasons there for; and

(c) whether any steps are being taken by Government to make available vital drugs in the capital?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (c) This Ministry regularly monitors the availability of all important vital drugs, based on the periodical reports of State Drug Controllers. As per available information, there is no shortage of vital drugs in the capital. Shortages, wherever reported are of brand nature and therapeutic equivalents are available.

IPCL and GAIL interests on Auriya Petrochemical Project

615. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE:
SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY:
Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Ltd. or the Gas Authority of India Limited will be entrusted to copromote the UP petrochemical unit at Auriya alongwith UPSIDC; and

(b) how much share the Central units will hold in the proposed venture?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b) No decision has yet been taken on the setting up of the petrochemical complex at Auriya.

Decontrolling Prices of Drugs

616. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in *Economic Times* on 16th January, 1989, under the heading of 'Kelkar Panel' for lifting price control on 13 drugs;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that Kelkar Committee recommended for shifting of Category-I to Category-II of Timolol, Rifampicin and Sulphacetamide which are needed for National Health Programmes;

(c) whether it is also a fact that his Ministry has accepted the recommendations;

(d) whether it is a fact that according to Drug Policy these drugs should be under Category-I;

(e) if so, what are the reasons for deviation of policy; and

(f) what was the production of each of these drugs during the last three years, year-wise and stage of manufacture of each drug of each unit?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (e) The required details are given in the reply to Starred Question No. 77 for 27th Februray, 1989.

(f) The required details to the extent available will be collected and laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha.

Exemption from Price Control of Small Scale Units

617. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that small scale units are exempted from price control irrespective of sales turnover from Category-II formulations;

(b) whether it is also a fact that certain small scale units have turnover more than organised sector units;

(c) names of small scale units having annual sales turnover for more than ten crores;

(d) whether it is also a fact that his Ministry has shifted certain drugs from Category I to Category II;

(e) if so, what are the names of those drugs;

(f) whether it is a fact that Kelkar Committee recommended exemption of small scale units with turnover ceiling in the supplementary report;

(g) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(h) what is the position of drugs shifted under price control?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Sales turnover is not monitored by this Ministry.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The following drugs have been shifted from Category-I to Categroy-II of DPCO, 1987;

1. paracetamol.
2. Rifampicin.
3. Timolol.
4. Sulphacetamide Sodium.

(f) and (g) For the present, the Government is not considering withdrawing of the exemption granted to SSI Units vide this Ministry Notificaiton No. S.O. 719(E) dt. 21.7.1988.

(h) The exemption from price control will also be available on such drugs to SSI Units, eligible for exemption from price control under the above said order.

Price Control on Paracetamol Formulations

618. CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Kelkar Committee recommended price decontrol on paracetamol in its initial report;

(b) on what basis this drug has been price controlled now on the basis of high concentration;

(c) whether it is a fact that none of the formulators account for more than 23 per cent of the market of the product;

(d) whether it is a fact that criteria of high concentration has been ignored in the case of Methdilazine, Glybenelamide, Glipizide, Polymixin B Sulphate, Dulcolax and other medicines where 80 per cent of the market is controlled by one company; and

(e) what are the details of recommendations made in the supplementary report in respect of these drugs?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (e) The required details, to the extent available, will be collected and laid on the Table of the House.

DPCO Impact

619. CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which